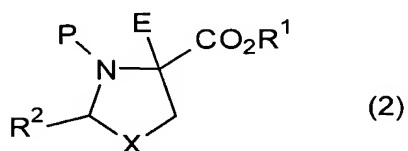


What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing compounds of the general formula (2)



where

x is S or O and

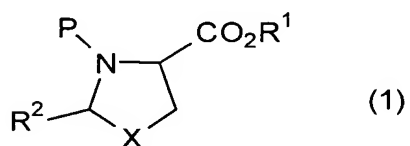
R¹ is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, metals of the first or second main group, linear or branched C₁-C₁₂-alkyl, C₆-C₁₅-aryl or C₇-C₂₁-aralkyl radicals, dialkylsilyl and trialkylsilyl, dialkylarylsilyl, diarylalkylsilyl, triarylsilyl radicals, and the organic radicals of the silyl radicals are in turn selected from C₁-C₁₂-alkyl and C₆-C₁₅-aryl radicals and

R^2 is selected from the group comprising linear or branched C_1 - C_{12} -alkyl, C_6 - C_{15} -aryl and C_7 - C_{21} -aralkyl radicals and

P is an amino protecting group and

E is a radical selected from the group comprising optionally halogen, cyano, nitro or ester group-substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₁₂-alkyl, C₃-C₁₀-alkenyl, C₆-C₁₅-aryl and C₇-C₂₁-aralkyl radicals, or is an acyl or formyl group,

comprising adding a base to a reaction mixture comprising a compound of the general formula (1)



and an electrophile E-Y

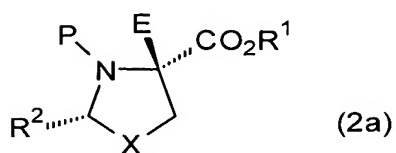
where

Y is a leaving group,

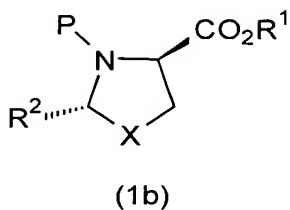
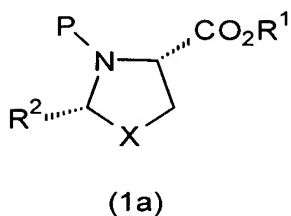
and carrying out the reaction at a temperature of greater than - 40° C.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein optical isomers in

the configuration of the general formula (2a)



are prepared using optical isomers of the general formulae (1a) or (1b) in pure form or as mixtures



3. The process of claim 1, wherein P is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, formyl, acyl, oxycarbonyl, sulfonyl, sulfenyl and silyl radicals.

4. The process of claim 1, wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of halogens, tosylates, azides, hydrazides, dialkylamides and sulfonates.

5. The process of claim 1, wherein the base is an alkali metal amide.

6. The process of claims 1, wherein E-Y is methyl iodide or dimethyl sulfate.

7. The process of claim 1, wherein the process is carried out at a temperature of from -30°C to $+30^{\circ}\text{C}$.

8. The process of claim 1, wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, phenyl, benzyl, trimethylsilyl, triethylsilyl and tributylsilyl.

9. The process of claim 1, wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, tolyl, naphthyl and benzyl.